



Provider Supports Subcommittee

Feedback Loop

June 14, 2023

Recommendations, Input and Decisions Made, Status Updates

Follow Up Items from Previous Meetings

Fair Start for Kids Act (FSKA) ELAC Recommendation Report

ELAC is currently in the process of developing the FSKA Recommendation Report

The purpose of the recommendation report is to advise the Department on statewide early learning issues that contribute to the ongoing efforts of building a comprehensive system of quality early learning programs and services for Washington's young children and families. In collaboration with the Council, the Department shall consult with its advisory groups and other interested stakeholders and shall submit a biennial report to the governor and legislature describing how the investments funded by the fair start for kids act have impacted the policy [objectives stated in subsection \(2\)\(f\) of this section](#).

ELAC will be holding a special meeting for report development on Tuesday, July 11, where they will be reviewing a draft of the recommendations. For more information, or to share feedback, please reach out to Emily Morgan at Emily.morgan@dcyf.wa.gov.

Complex Needs Fund

- When we look at the requirements for applying for this grant, our opportunities in this area are very limited. We have been trying to work with the Herring Center UW to set up trainings or extra support for teachers in the area to work with children and set up some priorities. Do you know if more funds are going to be put into that pot? It doesn't seem large enough for the needs of that state.
 - We requested additional investment for the Complex Needs Fund from the legislature and are pleased to share that the request was granted and more funding was approved.

Early Childhood Equity Grant

- Is there a place where we can look up who the grant recipients were?
 - Grant recipient details are not public information – Licensed Family Homes and Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) providers are protected from identifying data requests under [Initiative 1501](#), which prevents disclosure of identifying information under the [Public Records Act](#).
 - Fast-Facts data on grant awards is published on the [DCYF website](#), where you can find information on total numbers of recipients, what kinds of providers were awarded, demographic information, funding amounts etc.

2024 Legislative Session Lookahead & Government Affairs Budget Update

We are pleased to be able to tell you [Senate Bill 5316](#) passed the legislature and is on the Governor's desk for signature. The good news – child care providers will **not** have to resume paying background check fees.

Unfortunately, we regret to have to report that the legislature removed the section regarding licensing fees, effectively reinstating these fees permanently. This means all licensed child care providers who have fees due after July 1, 2023 will need to begin paying their annual child care licensing fees. As you may recall, fees were temporarily lifted in a Governor-issued COVID-related emergency order to help alleviate costs for child care in an effort to keep licensed child care open during the pandemic.



We know that this will not be welcome news for many, as providers are still struggling with costs associated with staffing and other pandemic impacts. Our goal is to implement this return to licensing fees as efficiently and seamlessly as possible. An email will be sent shortly to all licensed providers with more details about this transition.

Until then, please take a moment to celebrate the portion of this bill that will simplify and improve the hiring process for many providers across Washington by removing background check fees. [You can find an updated version of the slide deck that was shared with you during the April ELAC meeting here.](#) – it has more details about what else passed the legislature for Early Learning this year. Thank you for your partnership.

Recruitment Announcement: Provider Supports Executive Committee

We are currently accepting nominations for co-chairs! Below we have included the Roles and Responsibilities, including time commitments, for the co-chair position. Please take a moment to review and reach out if you have any questions or would like to apply

Co-Chair Roles and Responsibilities

- Serve as members of the Executive Committee.
- Lead and facilitate meetings in a way that ensures: that all Members and the public have opportunities to participate; that meeting actions and decisions are clear; and that PS provides meaningful, clear advice and recommendations to DCYF.
- Steward the consistent collaboration and alignment with ELAC and DCYF to ensure all expectations and directives are being met.
- Participate in regular planning meetings with DCYF to plan meetings and track work plan progress (approximate time commitment is 2-3 one-hour meetings per month).
- Represent PS in communications with DCYF.

If you are interested in being a co-chair for Provider Supports, please email us at dcyf.communityengagement@dcyf.wa.gov and share the following:

- *Why are you interested in being a co-chair for Provider Supports?*
- *What do you hope to contribute to the Executive Committee?*